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From: Cheney, Sally (DPH)
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 3:43 PM
To: Etkind, Sue (DPH); Bertrand, Thomas (DPH); Cochran, Jennifer (DPH); Talebian, Pejman (DPH); LaRosa, Glynnis (DPH); Gurland, Lisa (DPH); Haney, Gillian (DPH); Daniel, James (DPH); Grazioplene, Mariah (DPH); Belanger, Peter (DPH); Borne, Alan (DPH); Caloggero, Dina (DPH); Elvin, Paul (DPH); Fontana, John (DPH); Gauthier, Cheryl (DPH); Han, Linda (DPH); Konomi, Raimond (DPH); Nassif, Julianne (DPH); Nawn, Kathleen (DPH); Peppe, Joseph (DPH); Salemi, Charles (DPH); Sloutsky, Alex (DPH); Smole, Sandra (DPH)
Cc: DeMaria, Alfred (DPH)
Subject: MA Preparation regarding Katrina volunteers

DPH is working with MEMA to identify potential volunteers to assist with the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. In preparation for this, we would like to prepare a list of CD and Lab Bureau staff who have the requisite skills and would be interested in/available to volunteer, should we be called to respond. At this point in time, most requests are for physicians, nurses and behavioral health personnel. Sanitarians and Laboratory personnel are among other potential groups being discussed. Each individual interested in volunteering needs to provide information describing their specific skill set for this response. Following is the information that I have received at this point in time. As always, in this type of situation, it will change frequently.

State employees may volunteer with the permission of their supervisor. Salary and OT will be reimbursed to the Commonwealth then transferred back to the respective program. Per diem expenses, airfare and lodging will also be reimbursed, but will initially be out-of-pocket expenses. TAFs will still need to be submitted, but approval will be expedited internally. Volunteers will be covered for liability, malpractice, workman's compensation, etc. These provisions do not apply to contractors, seasonal employees and are limited for part-time employees.

As of today, the Department is working to assist MEMA with an EMACs request for medical and environmental health personnel.

Please forward me your lists of any potential volunteers and their credentials.

Sally